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File: USPT

Nov 10, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5835896

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5835896 A

TITLE: Method and system for processing and transmitting electronic auction information

DATE-ISSUED: November 10, 1998

## INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
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## ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Onsale, Inc.	Menlo Park	CA			02

APPL-NO: 08/ 623654 [PALM]

DATE FILED: March 29, 1996

INT-CL: [06] G06 F 15/300

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/37; 705/27

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/37; 705/27

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 395/201, 395/226, 395/227, 395/237, 395/244, 395/240, 283/56, 340/825.26, 340/825.27, 340/825.28, 340/825.29, 902/22, 902/24, 379/91-93, 705/1, 705/26, 705/27, 705/37, 705/44

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected

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	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/>	3581072	May 1971	Nymeyer	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	4677552	June 1987	Sibley, Jr.	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	4799156	January 1989	Shavit	395/226
<input type="checkbox"/>	4903201	February 1990	Wagner	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5063507	November 1991	Lindsey et al.	395/226
<input type="checkbox"/>	5101353	March 1992	Lupien et al.	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5136501	August 1992	Silverman et al.	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5168446	December 1992	Wiseman	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5243515	September 1993	Lee	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5258908	November 1993	Hartheimer et al.	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5305200	April 1994	Hartheimer et al.	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5325297	June 1994	Bird et al.	395/792
<input type="checkbox"/>	5329589	July 1994	Fraser et al.	379/91
<input type="checkbox"/>	5375055	December 1994	Togher et al.	395/237
<input type="checkbox"/>	5394324	February 1995	Clearwater	395/208
<input type="checkbox"/>	5426281	June 1995	Abecassis	235/379

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN-PAT-NO	PUBN-DATE	COUNTRY	US-CL
2 658 635 A	August 1991	FR	
9 300 266 A	September 1994	NL	
WO 92 15174 A	September 1992	WO	
WO 96 34356 A	October 1996	WO	

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

"Onsale: Onsale brings thrill of Auctions and Bargain hunting online; unique internet retail service debuts with week-long charity auction for the Computer Museum in Boston", Business Editors/Computer Writers, May 24, 1995, Dialog file 610, Accession No. 0489267.

Dialog(R) File 610:Business Wire (c) 1997 Business Wire, "Onsale: Onsale Brings Thrill of Auctions and Bargain Hunting Online: Unique Internet retail service debuts with week-long charity auction for The Computer Museum in Boston", Mountain View, CA, May 22, 1995.

Dialog(R) File 16:Promt(R) (c) 1995 Information Access Co., "Car auction reaches into space", Automotive News, Nov. 25, 1991, p. 6.

Dialog(R) File 609:KR/T Bus. News (c) 1995 Knight-Ridder/Tribune Bus News., "California Computer Auctions No Boon For Bargain Hunters", Sep. 13, 1993, by Tom Schmitz, San Jose Mercury News, Calif.

ART-UNIT: 271

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Poinvil; Frantzy

#### ABSTRACT:

A system and method for conducting a multi-person, interactive auction, in a variety of formats, without using a human auctioneer to conduct the auction. The system is preferably implemented in software. The system allows a group of bidders to

interactively place bids over a computer or communications network. Those bids are recorded by the system and the bidders are updated with the current auction status information. When appropriate, the system closes the auction from further bidding and notifies the winning bidders and losers as to the auction outcome.

4 Claims, 14 Drawing figures